

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ACDA-12 SES-02 SAA-01 SSM-03 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 /092 W
-----090147 121536Z /73

O 121456Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9632
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5312

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM PBOR MARR LE IS SY
SUBJ: FRENCH POSITION ON RENEWAL OF UNIFIL

REF: STATE 229111

1. DCM MET WITH FRENCH CHARGE DE LAVERGNEE
SEPTEMBER 12 TO REVIEW WITH HIM U.S. POSITION ON
EXTENSION OF UNIFIL AS SET FORTH IN UNDER SECRETARY
NEWSOM'S CONVERSATION WITH FRENCH CHARGE IN WASHINGTON
SEPTEMBER 8 (REFTEL). DE LAVERGNEE WAS WELL PRIMED,
SINCE HE HAD RECEIVED THE REPORT OF THE NEWSOM-BOYER
CONVERSATION AND THE NEWSOM "NON-PAPER." IN FRIENDLY
BUT FIRM TONES DE LAVERGNEE REITERATED GOF LINE THAT
EXTENSION OF UNIFIL SHOULD BE CONFINED TO ONLY THREE
MONTHS IN ORDER TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE PARTIES FOR SOME
FURTHER RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM, "OTHERWISE IT WILL
DRAG ON FOREVER LIKE THE CYPRUS OPERATION." DE LAVERGNEE
OBSERVED THAT THE TUEINI MEMORANDUM HAD BEEN "NO
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HELP" SINCE IT CRITICIZED UNIFIL WITHOUT GIVING UNIFIL
SUFFICIENT CREDIT FOR ALL OF ITS CONSTRUCTIVE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS. DE LAVERGNEE SAID IF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL VOTES FOR A FULL SIX-MONTH EXTENSION OF
UNIFIL, FRANCE WOULD PROBABLY RECORD SOME FORM OF
RESERVATION, WHICH HE DID NOT SPECIFY.

2. EMBOFF EXPRESSED OUR FULL RECOGNITION FOR FRENCH CONTRIBUTION TO UNIFIL, DESCRIBING IT AS THE MAIN-SPRING OF THE FORCE. DE LAVERGNEE INFORMED HIM THAT IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS THE PARA BATTALION WOULD BE REPLACED BY A MARINE COMMANDO BATTALION. THESE ARE ALL CRACK NON-CONSCRIPT TROOPS, AND PARAS ARE BORED BY THIS "POLICE WORK."
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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